## Message Text

SECRET

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60

**ORIGIN EA-14** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMS-04 SNM-02 PER-05 SP-03 INR-11 RSC-01

M-02 /043 R

DRAFTED BY EA/LC:MHENDERSON APPROVED BY EA/LC;LMRIVES EA/RA:RMARTENS

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P 132137Z AUG 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

SECRETSTATE 177018

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, APER, LA

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS STAFFING FOR LAOS

**REF: VIENTIANE 6143** 

- 1. RECOMMENDATIONS IN REFTEL, ESPECIALLY PARA 3, ARE UNDER DISCUSSION IN DEPT.
- 2. RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING DEA: AT AUGUST 9 INFORMAL MEETING WHICH INCLUDED FRED DICK, DEA REGIONAL REP, EA/RA, STATE AND AID DESKS, DEA WORKING LEVEL REPS VERY HAPPY TO SEE EMBASSY ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL DEA OFFICER. DEA NOW SEEMS, RPT SEEMS WILLING TO REWRITE THIRD POSITION PROPOSAL SO THAT INCUMBENT HAS SOME RPT SOME INTELLIGENCE TRAINING PRIOR TO ARRIVAL IN LAOS AND WILL BE TRAINED IN LAO LANGUAGE. DEA HAS CANDIDATE CURRENTLY IN LAO LANGUAGE TRAINING AND AVAILABLE FOR WORK EARLY NEXT YEAR.
- 3. RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING CUSTOMS: WE EXPECT CUSTOMS REACTION TO RECOMMENDED PERSONNEL CUT WILL BE REPETITION OF POSITION STAKED OUT IN AUGUST 5 LETTER OF SECRET

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COMMISSIONER ACREE TO AMBASSADOR VANCE (COPY BEING POUCHED).

LETTER STATED "ANY REDUCTION BELOW FOUR COULD SEVERELY IMPAIR THE TEAM'S INSTITUTION BUILDING MISSION AND RELEGATE THE TEAM TO MORE OF A 'CRISES (SIC) MANAGEMENT' STATUS."

WE WISH TO AVOID CONGRESSIONAL CHARGE THAT WE ROBBING NARC PROGRAM OF ITS VITALITY IN LAOS. HENCE FOR OUR DIS-

CUSSIONS HERE, DEPT URGENTLY REQUESTS INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC MISSION OF THE FOUR CUSTOMS ADVISORS AND THEIR METHODS OF OPERATION. WHAT DO THESE PEOPLE DO? WHERE ARE THEY LOCATED? HOW DOES THEIR MISSION SQUARE WITH CURRENT LAO POLITICAL SITUATION? CAN WE EXPECT PGNU TO CONTINUE TO ENDORSE OR ACQUIESCE IN CUSTOMS ADVISORS PART OF OVERALL NARCOTICS? IN VIENTIANE? OUTSIDE VIENTIANE? WHAT WOULD BE FUNCTION OF SINGLE CUSTOMS OFFICER? WHAT PORTION OF CURRENT CUSTOMS WORK DEVOTED TO NARCOTICS WORK AND WHAT TO GENERAL CUSTOMS ADVISORY WORK? KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT

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To: VIENTIANE

Type: TE

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